FOREST INSECT LABORATORY
FORT COLLINS, COLORADO
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BUREAU OF ENTOMOLOGY & PLANT
QUARANTINE U. S. DEPT. OF AGRICULTURE

U.S. FOREST SERVICE ALBUQUERQUE, N.M.

Chief, Forest Service October 25, 1951

C. OTTO LINDH, Regional Forester, By

S, CONTROL, Insect, Annual Report, 1951
O(S), FINANCE, Estimates (Forest Pest Control)

Wygant
Wilford
Massey
McCambridge
Knight
Noughridge
Pattor
Gross

Reference is made to Mr. Granger's memorandum of September 4, 1951 and to Mr. Mason's memorandum of April 19, 1950.

Attached are the reports on control projects completed in 1951, and those proposed for 1952.

The looper outbreak was discovered in August of this year, and thus we hope may be considered under the emergency portion of the Appropriation Act. Likewise, the Scolytus attack in the Sandias was not known to be so severe until late this summer. This attack is far more severe and widespread than at the time of treatment in the spring of 1950. This may be due to the windfall during the winter of 1949-50, for which we did not have finances to treat. Our post-surveys of the 1950 treatment showed good control as far as the work was concerned on beetle infested trees. We were rather late in starting the project and thus there was considerable emergence prior to treatment, however. Drought may also be a factor in the build-up. Whatever the cause, the result is a bad epidemic in a heavily used recreation area.

It will be noted that the State of New Mexico has some 2300 acres involved in the looper infestation. We plan to contact them as soon as possible to advise them of the situation and solicit their aid. We do not expect any assistance for two reasons, however - (1) it is very doubtful if the State has any funds for this purpose, and (2) they are working with our office to exchange these lands to the Forest Service. The small amount of private land involved is in ownership uninterested in timber values and, therefore, not willing to finance any control work. For these reasons we have included the total cost of the project as to be paid from Government funds.

Special reports on barkbeetle attacks have not been prepared. For your information, they have increased greatly in intensity and area during the past year. Nearly every timbered forest in the Region is now affected; the Kaibab and Coconino have both ponderosa pine and Douglasfir affected. The protracted drought may be the main contributing factor, but this fact does not reduce the losses. Most of the attacks are by Dendroctonus barberi, Dendroctonus convexifrons, and others. No Dendroctonus ponderosae has been discovered. Considerable effort has been made to reduce the brood through salvage

by sawmill operations. Some work has been done, though operations have not been as complete or numerous as desired. Most sawmill men are reluctant to undertake this type operation because of increased logging costs and degrade due to bluing. Also, salvage operations on burns are occupying the time of many mills. Increased efforts are continuing to extend these salvage operations, resulting in new sales on several of the forests to date. We are still hoping to control the outbreaks through salvage, and without insect control projects.

Enclosures

✓cc-Dr. Wygant
cc-Operation
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Carson
Santa Fe
Lincoln

R. P. Nichols